Seismic forecast centres

2912. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to set up seismic forecast centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any centre would be located in Rajasthan; and

(d) in what manner it would be coordinated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (d) Sir, Government have no plans to set up seismic forecast centres in the country, as there is no scientific technique available anywhere in the world to forecast the occurrence of earthquakes with any reasonable degree of accuracy in terms of space, time and magnitude. However, India Meteorological Department operates the National Network of Seismological Observatories for monitoring earthquake activity in the country including Rajasthan.

Earthquake prone site of dam in Koyna

2913. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Koyna in Maharashtra where there is a large dam would be an earthquake prone site for the next 30 to 40 years;

(b) if so, whether the dam is likely to withstand the earthquakes; and

(c) if not, what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?